

**Minutes of Board Meeting Conference Call  
November 14, 2012  
10:00 A.M.**

**Present**

Trummie Patrick, Chairman  
Lynda Coker  
Kelly Gay  
Carolyn Roddy  
David Connell  
Anthony Heath

**Not in Attendance**

Vacant position  
Virginia Galloway  
Todd Cowan

The conference call was originated from the DDS Board Room. Those present were Bonnie Jordan who petitioned the board for a rule waiver; and numerous DDS staff members.

**Establish Quorum / Call to Order**

Chairman Patrick confirmed the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Patrick called for a motion regarding the minutes from the October 10, 2012 Board meeting as well as the minutes from the October 23, 2012 Specially Called Board Meeting and Executive Session.

Lynda Coker motioned to approve all of those minutes as presented; Kelly Gay seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

**Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Mikell briefed the Board on DDS' financial audit performed annually by the Department of Audits & Accounts. He stated he was proud to say that for the prior year financial statement and the prior year Federal awards, there were no findings.

In regards to the proposed Legislative package submitted to the Governor's Office for review, Mr. Mikell stated that after discussions with them, it was decided not to ask for an agency bill. However, the one thing that DDS will be carefully watching is the changes to the Commercial Driver's Instructional Permit. Those changes must be done by 2014, so DDS' plan is to see if an appropriate Bill comes up to which it could be attached.

Commissioner Mikell informed the Board of the recent visit from two staff members of the Mississippi DMV. They were particularly interested in DDS functions regarding customer service, technology and the license issuance process.

Mr. Mikell discussed the new "Troops to Trucks" program which is a combined effort between the Governor's Department of Workforce Development and DDS. The concept is to assist people that are just being discharged from the military to help them become gainfully employed as quickly as possible. If the person drove commercial vehicles in the military and depending on how long they drove them, after matching up those vehicles with comparable civilian vehicles, in some cases, the road skills test of the federal requirements can be waived, but they must still take the written test. "Troops to Trucks" is a way to expedite them being able to take the written test. As such, DDS will open the Columbus CSC on Mondays to allow soldiers currently in the military but soon to be discharged, or those who have been discharged within 90 days to come in and complete the written test and apply for their CDL. On November 8<sup>th</sup>, the Governor spoke at the kickoff breakfast and gave a very moving and heartfelt speech where he cited his own military service. Afterwards there was a very well orchestrated job fair in which DDS had a booth that was set up to serve approximately 18,000-20,000 military people. DDS kicked off the Troops to Trucks program at the Columbus CSC on Monday, November 12 - Veteran's Day. The grant will fund DDS through June of 2013 to allow DDS to open the Columbus CSC on Mondays and pay the Examiners that work.

### **Rules for Final Approval**

Ms. Ammons reviewed the following proposed rules changes for the Board's final consideration:

375-3-1-.02 - Applications and Supporting Documentation

375-3-1-.05 - Reciprocity for Valid Licenses Issued Elsewhere. Amended.

375-3-2-.01 - Expiration of License and Identification Card: When Licenses and Identification Cards May Be Renewed. Revised.

375-5-5-.01 - Organization. Amended.

375-5-5-.02 - Definitions. Amended.

375-5-5-.03 - Chauffeur Endorsement Requirements. Amended.

375-5-5-.04 - Qualifications for Issuance of Chauffeur's Endorsement. Amended.

375-5-5-.05 - Suspension, ~~or~~ Revocation, or Cancellation of Chauffeur's Endorsement.

375-5-5-.06 - General Regulations. Amended.

Lynda Coker motioned to approve the rules for final adoption; David Connell seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

### **Petitions for Board Waiver**

Ms. Jennifer Ammons, DDS General Counsel, reviewed the following petitions for waiver from Ga. Admin. Comp. Ch. 375-3-1-.02 – Documentation Required for Initial Issuance:

Gerald Gatewood – He is seeking to obtain an ID card since his driver's license expired in 2005 while he was incarcerated. He has an undocumented childhood name change. He was born Gerald Parker, but subsequent to his birth his mother married Mr. Gatewood which is the surname he used throughout his life. He has provided his birth certificate; his mother's marriage license; school records from the 1950's; his expired Georgia driver's license; his Department of Corrections identification card; his DD-214; a letter from Social Security showing his eligibility for benefits; and his mother's death certificate. He is 72 years old; disabled and living in a nursing home and needs an ID card to stay in the nursing home.

David Connell motioned to approve the waiver; Carolyn Roddy seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Geneva Lee – She is 88 years old and seeking an ID card; however, she has been unable to obtain a copy of her birth certificate. She has provided a letter from the Social Security Administration; her power bill; her lease agreement; bank statement; her Social Security card; application for her marriage license; and a cable bill.

Kelly Gay motioned to approve the waiver; David Connell seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Maria Rodriguez – she has moved to Georgia from Nevada to live with her son and wants to transfer her driver's license. She does not have the original or a certified copy of her Certificate of Naturalization but she does have a photocopy of it and DDS has been able to verify it. In addition, she has provided her Social Security card; confirmation of her change of address; a letter from the Social Security Administration; her bank statement, rent receipt; driver's license from Nevada; and her 2011 tax return.

David Connell motioned to approve the waiver; Kelly Gay seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Ruth Brooks – She is a renewal customer and has had her ID card since 1996. She does not have a birth certificate but she has provided a letter from vital records confirming that she has tried to get it. She has also provided her Social Security and Medicare cards; a letter from the Social Security Administration about her benefits; and copies of her medical bills. Ms. Ammons stated that since she has a 16 year history with DDS, it would be consistent with previous cases for the Board to approve the waiver.

Kelly Gay motioned to approve the waiver; Lynda Coker seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Ms. Ammons reviewed the following petitions for waiver from Ga. Admin. Comp. Ch. 375-3-1-.24 – Name on License or Identification Card. Amended:

Bonnie Jordan – Ms. Ammons stated that Ms. Jordan was present at the board meeting. She moved to Georgia from New York and had an undocumented childhood name change. She married using her step-father's surname not the name shown on her birth certificate. She has provided a letter from her mother confirming the name change; documentation related to her employment where she confirmed the name history; and a copy of her driver's license from the State of New York.

Ms. Jordan indicated that she had brought some more documents to be considered. After reviewing those documents Ms. Ammons stated that she had brought her original birth certificate; marriage licenses, high school year book, therefore she has the other documents that would support the application.

Lynda Coker motioned to approve the waiver; David Connell seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Jeffrey Merriweather – He is unable to provide a copy of his birth certificate. He explained that at the time of his birth he was very ill and remained so for quite some time during his childhood and has provided documentation of his numerous hospitalizations as an infant and toddler. He has also provided an affidavit from his sister as well as her birth certificate that shows the same parents; documentation of his employment; birth certificate of his son; marriage license; printout from Social Security; attendance award from elementary school; his high school transcript and diploma. He indicated that the only birth certificate that the State of Missouri has been able to find that is close to him does not list his parents so he does not believe that it is him. So far, he has not been able to get Missouri to issue him a delayed birth certificate; however, he is still trying to gather all the affidavits from all of his siblings who live in different states to submit to get a delayed birth certificate.

Kelly Gay asked the Department's recommendation, Ms. Ammons replied that given the fact that he is in the process of applying for a delayed birth certificate, he is not to the point where his only avenue to resolve his problem is through the Board. He has had a Georgia driver's license for 20 years in that name and it appears he is who he claims to be.

Ms. Coker asked about the Board's consistency when they've been licensed in Georgia but can not now provide a birth certificate as documentation. Ms. Ammons replied that this is new ground and that the board would have not dealt with such cases prior to implementation of Secure ID. Commissioner Mikell stated that historically the Board has been consistent in putting a lot of weight on knowing that people who already hold a Georgia license have been vetted in the past.

Lynda Coker motioned to approve the waiver; David Connell seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Theo Bill Vlass – He has moved back to Georgia from Florida and wants to transfer his driver's license. His birth certificate has a slightly different name from the name by which he is known. His birth certificate shows his Greek name, Theofil Bill Vlasiadis and lists his parents with their full Greek names. However, his father and mother's Greek names were

legally changed to the surname Vlass on their Certificates of Naturalization. DDS has a record for him in the name Theo Bill Vlass prior to his move to Florida and he has also provided his birth certificate; Social Security card; Florida driver's license; both parents' death certificates; both of their Certificates of Naturalization; his son's birth certificate showing the surname Vlass; church issued birth and baptismal certificates for his son; his marriage certificate; his 7<sup>th</sup> grade diploma from elementary school; a 1099; and a bank statement. Ms. Ammons stated that due to the fact that DDS has a prior driving record established for him in that name, and the discussion from the previous petition, it would be consistent for the Board to approve the waiver.

David Connell motioned to approve the waiver; Kelly Gay seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Susan Arminger – She has moved to Georgia from Colorado and is seeking a license transfer. Her birth certificate shows her surname as Polich, but in the mid 1980's she had her name legally changed to Fontenot but she has been unsuccessful in obtaining a copy. She has provided her birth certificate; her Colorado driver's license; her marriage certificate where she took the name Arminger from her intermediate name; her Social Security card; university transcripts; a gas bill; her tax return; her spouse and son's birth certificates; and her son's driver's license. Ms. Ammons stated it would be consistent for the waiver to be approved since it is an intermediate name change that appears on all documents she presented

Lynda Coker motioned to approve the waiver; Carolyn Roddy seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

Peggy Pickens – She moved to Georgia from Arkansas and wants to transfer her Arkansas license. She has provided her birth certificate; her marriage license from her first marriage to Mr. Parnell but she does not have the divorce decree. The second marriage in 1978 to Mr. Pickens was a common-law marriage so there is no document to show solemnization of that marriage but she does have a divorce decree. She also provided her Social Security card; her bank statement and her car insurance bill. Ms. Ammons stated it would be consistent with previous cases for the waiver to be approved.

David Connell motioned to approve the waiver; Kelly Gay seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.

### **Old/New Business and Adjournment**

Chairman Patrick reminded the Board that the next Board meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2012 at 10:00 A.M.

Lynda Coker motioned to approve the waiver; Carolyn Roddy seconded the motion with unanimous approval by the remaining Board members.